TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Anonymous communications can receive no attention. Everything intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith. Letters containing matter for publication should be written on one side of the sheet of paper. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Daily News.

TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 4.

The line of the Canada Pacific Railway between Thunder Bay and Winnipeg has been completed, and the first train has passed over the road. Traffic will consequently be carried on between Ontario and Manitoba this summer within our own territory, a presage of a mutual guarantee between the different sections of the Dominion.

On the other side they have a habit of assessing government officials for the purpose of supplying the party which happens to be in power with funds. The Central Republican committee recently issued forty thousand circulars calling upon officials to pay up, and these have been sent even to laborers and scrub women who are thus threatened with dismissal unless they subscribe. George William Curtis has brought the matter before Attorney General Brewster which he expects to decide that it is illegal. The civil service system of the United States is rotten throughout. Men are placed in position to be turned out in case of a change of the stripe of the administration, consequently they are under temptation to feather their nests while in office, and they have little encouragement to master their duties thoroughly where their tenure is so uncertain. Our neighbours started well with the idea that merits was the test of worth, and that departing from all royal ruling systems they would be a law unto themselves.

The Toronto World, which is an ardent Nationalist journal, desires it also that Canada might be a nation without incurring the expense which usually attend upon nationalities. It argues that we would not require iron clads in order to give us support and influence in dealing with foreign powers, because our relations would be almost exclusively with the neighbouring republic, which is not a naval power. Unfortunately the neighbouring republic is not the non-aggressive power which the World describes, but one which aims at being supreme on this continent, and its claims as represented by the Monroe doctrine are not only hostile to Canada but to every other country outside the United States. The presumptuous attempt to control the Panama Canal in defiance of treaty obligations shows the spirit which animates our neighbours, such a spirit might easily lead to complications with European states, with whom they will undoubtedly come in contact as the commerce of all countries expands. This possibility has led to a vote of four million on Saturday for the construction of ships of war, and it is very unlikely that with enormous surplus revenues and an extravagant disposition on the part of the people such expenditures will stop. The Americans are ambitious of becoming a naval power and there can be little question that Canada would be committing an act of extraordinary folly if she voluntarily resigned the guardianship of such a powerful friend and protector as the mother country.

The Returning Officer for Bothwell has made his final report declaring Mr Blake was elected, and the Hon David Mills is therefore for the present without a seat. The matter has been the subject of bitter comment in the Reform press and the wildest charges of impropriety have been preferred against the Returning Officer in question and the Government which appointed Him. As to the latter we cannot see any just reason why the Government should confine their choice of officers of R. O. to the servants of the Ontario Government who are in many cases violent partisans and not over scrupulous as to how they employ their authority. Further, we know of no ground for condemning the Returning Officer in question or denouncing him for partiality. His business is to open the ballot boxes of the deputies and from their returns to make up his return, and if there are no returns or they are incomplete he must ignore the polling subdivisions where the irregularity has taken place. Of course injury and injustice may result to a candidate by such action, but that is not the fault of the Officer who has merely to do his duty. In Bothwell Mr Mills, if dissatisfied with the decision of the Returning Officer, could have appealed to the County Judge for a recount of the ballots and this has decided satisfactorily the number of votes cast for each candidate. It appears that the Judge was not asked to pursue this course, but only to make up a return nevertheless he undertook to act in judgment upon the Returning Officer and decide upon the validity of the defective reports. The Returning Officer refused to be bound by the opinion of the Judge, the Judge, who was exceeding the scope of his duty. If the result has been to deprive Mr Mills of his seat, that gentleman has only himself to blame, since he could have applied for a recount of the ballots, but neglected to do so.

The Kingston Collegiate Institute ceased to exist on Friday evening, and became a high school, and another teacher will probably be dispensed with to-day in addition to Mrs Phillips, whose term expired on the first. By this circumstance Kingston has lost one of the Government grant, and receives a share in the educational system of the country in the rear of that occupied by many small towns. It is a strange thing, and points to something rotten in our system, that while the public school board is crying out for additional accommodation there should be four rooms lying idle in the Institute. It may be thought that one board would be more convenient for the management of both schools than two, but at present this cannot be consistent with the law. There is reason, however, why the two boards should be at cross purposes and pulling in contrary directions, simply because they represent different institutions. The interests of education are all the same interest, different grades of schools are merely different parts of what should be a harmonious whole, the educational system of Ontario. The feeling of estrangement which seems to exist in Kingston is thought with regret by friends of the Commons. It produces the singular anomaly that we have already attended to three being room to spare in the Institute while the common schools have one teacher where there should be two on the digestals to one of the Institute.

YESTERDAY'S CELEBRATION

How the People Enjoyed the Day.

A Beautiful Morning, but a Wet Afternoon Picnics and Excursions

Yesterday morning broke clear and bright, and everybody concluded that it was fortunate that Monday was the day selected to be celebrated. At two o'clock in the afternoon, however, and just at the time when excursions were about to leave and when any amusements that were announced were about to take place, a heavy cloud came up over the heavens and shortly after the rain began to descend in torrents. It continued to pour till half past three, with alternate showers up to six o'clock. This had the effect of dampening the day's proceedings, drawing the people in doors and giving the city a forsaken aspect. At the points outside the games were not proceeded with, and those who were in attendance vagrily awaited an opportunity to get home. In other words the rain spoiled the day in Kingston.

The Picnic at Chaudy Lake

This affair would have been a grand success, but for the rain. At one time there were about 200 people on the grounds, and fully 300 more had entered house, not caring to get a wetting. Those who remained indulged in dancing, to the music of Hoyle's string band, during the intervals between the showers. The 100 yards race between Perry and Hornbrook was won easily by the latter by about three yards. Just after the start the latter stumbled on a hole, which set him back, but it not been for that the race would have been hotly contested, and perhaps the result reversed. A matched race for 100 yards was arranged between Perry and Tanner. Shortly after Mr H Battery, Perry was victorious on the race also, beat ing the soldier by two feet. The race was a pretty one. The committee decided to postpone the remainder of the games to the big picnic of St Vincent de Paul Society in August. Notwithstanding the unfortunate circumstance, the Secretary states that the picnic was a financial success, and that the committee will be enabled to hand over to the House of Providence a good round sum.

A meeting was held of the committee in charge of the picnic, and it was resolved to hold another picnic on next Dominion Day. Votes of thanks were tendered to Henry Folger, T Hanley, Capt Miller and Mr Briggs for their kindness to the gentlemen during the stormy.

Methodist Excursion

The ladies of Sydenham Street church had an excursion to Brockville yesterday, which was very fashionable. The majority of the ladies are well known, and it is especially attractive at the present time when the Canada annual is issued and circulated. There was a large and enthusiastic demonstration on board the boat which might have compelled the anxious minded Tallback upon the wheel immediately and allocation of national debt. The excursionists left the city at 9 o'clock and arrived at Brockville about 12 o'clock, when they were met by a number of gentlemen of the town, who had not Charles Mills, Mr Hancock and Mr Hughes and Mr Hall, who conducted Mr Belcher, made a fine stand, piling up 13 and 10 respectively. The other nominees of the team acquitted themselves well, the Lid at the end of the innings being 50. When the last wicket fell the score for King stone was 44, leaving the Port Hope 14 runs to win, which were got together by Messrs Ing Belcher and Mayhew. Mr Belcher was unlucky enough to get out in his second ball, but Mr Hughes and Mr Hall, who succeeded